

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



550992



(43) International Publication Date  
7 October 2004 (07.10.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/084756 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61C 13/00**

PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/EP2004/003169

(22) International Filing Date: 25 March 2004 (25.03.2004)

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(25) Filing Language: English  
(26) Publication Language: English  
(30) Priority Data:  
103 13 690.8 26 March 2003 (26.03.2003) DE

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)*

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **3M ESPE AG** [DE/DE]; Espe Platz, 82229 Seefeld (DE).

Published:

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

WO 2004/084756 A1

(54) Title: PROCESSING OF SHAPE DATA OF A DENTAL PROSTHESIS

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the processing of data regarding the three dimensional shape of a dental prosthesis, which has two prosthesis sections and a connector section, said connector section being connected to the two prosthesis sections and less stable than the two prosthesis sections, comprising the steps that : - a stability parameter and a stability criterion are determined for the connector section ; - for the stability parameter, the actual value is calculated from the data ; - it is checked for the connector section as to whether the actual value fulfills the stability criterion, and if not, that a warning signal is generated, wherein the determination of the stability criterion is dependent on at least one of the following prosthesis attributes : - the configuration of the prosthesis; - the position of the prosthesis inside the mouth ; - the material and/or the cross-sectional profile of the connector section ; - the type of the prosthesis sections adjoining the connector section.